

TRUE NORTHERNER

Published Every Wednesday.

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JUDGE WM. D. KELLEY, of Pennsylvania, the oldest member in continuous service, of the National House of Representatives, died at Washington, D. C., last Thursday evening.

THE young state of Montana has elected four United States Senators; two Republican and two Democratic. Gov. Toole has issued certificates of election to the Democrats, but the Secretary of State withheld the seal of the State from these certificates, but attaches it to the certificates of the Republicans, the Governor refusing to append his signature. This action will force a contest at Washington, which will doubtless result in the seating of the Republicans.

THIRD party prohibitionists must be highly elated over the result of their labors in aid of the Iowa democracy. Since the late elections in that state, whiskey-selling has assumed new life. The liquor dealers and their friends are in high spirits, and fully expect that Governor Boies (who owes his election to the third party prohibitionists) will be in full sympathy and accord with them. "Anything to beat the Republican party" is their watchword.

DURING a recent contest in congress in which some Democratic members sought to take advantage of certain technicalities in the rules to delay important legislation, Representative McKinley tersely and vigorously sounded the keynote of the Republican position when he said, "The country is infinitely more concerned in the things that we do than in the rules under which we do them." In this position we believe that Mr. McKinley and his colleagues will be heartily supported by sensible men of all parties.

OUT of twelve articles appearing in the editorial columns of the *Free Press* and *Courier* last week, ten are clipped and credited, and two are assumed by the gentleman of *leftly instincts* and singleness of purpose, who is alone responsible for their appearance. The *NORTHERNER* regrets that its contemporary should deem it necessary in the interests of a party, with whose record on these subjects, he certainly ought to be familiar, to descend to such reckless, illogical and puerile vapors as characterized the articles to which reference is made. The first article makes allusion to the New Year's reception given by Vice-President Morton and wife, and charges that wine constituted a leading feature of the collation, and that it was doubtless taken from the Vice-President's *saloon*. It is well known that no purer, more patriotic and sincere christian gentleman lives than Mr. Morton. Whether in his home, in Congress, as minister representing this government abroad, or as the second highest official dignitary in the land, he has always enjoyed the confidence and respect of the better class of people wherever known. Such an allusion, insinuation or charge as the *Courier* makes in this instance, could only have its origin in the brain of impractical temperance cranks, who are either incapable or unwilling to discriminate between right and wrong, between justice and injustice, and who never have and never can, for that reason, advance the cause of temperance; or, on the other hand, from political bankrupts who hope to further their political interests by professing to be in sympathy with their methods. Neither of these regard good character as of any value, and both, with unchristian viciousness, assail it when in the way of their peculiar notions. The other article the *Courier* would have the public accept as coming from its editor's pen, opens with a criticism upon the board of supervisors for taking two days in which to arrange for an election on the question of County Option. We believe that the supervisors did their work as promptly as possible, be that as it may, they alone are responsible, and must answer to their constituents, Democrat and Republican alike. The *astute* author of the article having consigned the supervisors to political oblivion, then sails into the Republican party, and charges it with being twice guilty of defeating prohibition in this State. This is a reiteration of the same charge made in the last campaign by the same parties, which the people, by a largely increased Republican majority, branded as a base and malicious falsehood. The Republican party has fulfilled every pledge it ever made to the people on the temperance or any other question. It furnished them an opportunity to vote on State prohibition, and they declared themselves against it. It then gave them a local option law, which, on technical grounds, was found to be unconstitutional. It has now enacted a law which, it is believed, is free from errors, and it is for the people to say whether they will avail themselves of its provisions. The Republican party, as a whole, is for temperance. If the Democratic party will show as large a per cent of its membership in favor of temperance, as will be found in the ranks of the Republican party, then all legislation on this subject will be

triumphantly sustained. The *Courier* says that defects were intentionally left in the law by the Republicans. The same charge could, with equal justice and propriety, be made against the Democrats who passed the prohibitory Statute of 1832 and 1833, which was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. If there are any grounds for the claim, that the Republicans are acting in bad faith, why do not some of the Democratic members of the legislature expose them before the vote is taken on the measure, instead of waiting for the action of the courts? Liquor legislation has not alone shared this fate, as we find that laws passed by the Congress of the United States, and by the legislatures of the several states, on various subjects, have been thus treated. As well might the charge of bad faith be made in all of these cases. The *NORTHERNER* and the Republican party are for temperance and good order in the State, and are in favor of local option in Van Buren county, the asseverations of the *Courier*, and those of like mind to the contrary notwithstanding. Their pleas are those of the demagogue—of the searcher after petty and unfair advantages in party politics, and the past record belies their spasmodic professions. If they are as anxious for temperance legislation as they profess, let them join hands with the Republican party in an effort to secure it, and thereby array themselves for once on the right side of a great moral question.

Protection vindicated by Experience.
Listening to the denunciations of the policy of protection to home industries, so persistently employed by free trade advocates, the unposted voter might readily infer that protection was a mere experiment, unsanctioned by practical statesmen in other countries, and without warrant in the experience of nations older than ours.

The fact is, England enforced the most rigid protective legislation known to history during a period of four hundred years, and changed her policy but forty years ago, when confronted with the fact that there were more people on her little island than could be fed from its products, she believed herself strong enough to compel other nations to adopt a policy which would make her the workshop of the world. In trying this step Cobden promised that in twenty years all the leading nations of the world would adopt a similar revenue policy; but, despite the efforts to that end of emissaries who have persistently worked in colleges, in commerce and through the press, England is to-day seemingly as far from the fulfillment of her ambition to dictate the tariffs of other nations as she was forty years ago. All the other leading governments of the world adhere to protection of the industries of their people, some of them (notably Germany) adding largely to their import duty in recent years.

While the overwhelming majority of statesmen throughout the world are vindicating the wisdom of protection by ingrafting it into the laws of their governments, it is fashionable for theorists without knowledge of the government beyond that acquired in lecturing a class of undergraduates, and with business experience limited to receipting for salaries and paying for living expenses, to descend upon the beneficence of unrestricted competition between the people of the nations, however divergent their conditions. Which are likely to prove the best judges of a sound national policy?

The Michigan Pension Agency.
The United States Pension Agency for Michigan, has been for more than a year, and still is, a matter of profound interest to the Republicans of this State. Several candidates have been zealously supported by their respective friends for this important and responsible position, and they are still in the field. Comrade E. H. Harvey, of Paw Paw, has, from the first, been prominent among the aspirants for this office, and his claims are still conceded and resolutely championed by a host of good men in this and other sections of the State. Upon the accession of the Democratic party to power five years ago, President Cleveland appointed as Pension Agent of Michigan, a veteran from the ranks who had lost his leg in battle. In this selection Mr. Cleveland preferred a *private disabled soldier* to Mrs. General Custer, and other candidates, gentlemen who had held high rank in the army. The appointment was cordially applauded by both political parties. Now the Republicans are in power, and a successor to Robert McKinstry is soon to be recommended for appointment by our Senators at Washington. Will the Republican party, with its profuse and positive assurances of friendship for the soldier class, especially the *disabled* portion of that class, do less than did the Democratic party? Will a private one-legged veteran be supplanted by an able-bodied officer, and that too to the exclusion of a candidate in every respect equally well qualified, and who served in the ranks during the war, leaving his right leg on the battle field of Cold Harbor? Will the Republican party thus violate the precedent established by its political rival? This, it seems to us, is the question to be considered, and not the quality of political endorsement that can be gathered up, "hustler" fashion, and dispatched to Wash-

ington. Comrade Harvey served faithfully through all the stirring campaigns of Custer's Michigan brigade, being a private soldier of the 7th Cavalry. Such is the candidate of Van Buren county and the fourth Congressional district for the Pension Agency at Detroit, and his supporters are resolute and earnest, believing that the claims of their candidate, and of the county, as the banner Republican stronghold of Michigan, entitle them to success, for which they will contend to the last.

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